

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 PM-03 NSCE-00 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5848
USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE 615
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0317

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, ET, SO, UNSC
SUBJECT: GDSR OPPOSES SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION; SETS CONDITIONS
FOR OGADEN WITHDRAWAL

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CALLED
IN THE AMBASSADOR THIS MORNING, FEB 20, AND DELIVERED AN AID
MEMOIRE LARGELY REITERATING THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA'S
AFFIRMATION OF SELF DETERMINATION AS THE KEY TO A SETTLEMENT
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OF THE OGADEN WAR, OPPOSING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE TOPIC INTO
THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL, AND SETTING FORTH CONDITIONS
FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOMALIA FORCES FROM THE OGADEN. THE
FULL TEXT OF THE AIDE MEMORIE FOLLOWS: QOUTE

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC EXPRESSES
APPRECIATION FOR THE NOTE SUBMITTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE

UNITED STATES ON THE QUESTION OF FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE WESTERN SOMALI TERRITORY. THE UNITED STATES TALKING POINTS CONTAIN SOME POSITIVE ELEMENTS WHICH REQUIRE MORE CLARIFICATIONS. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, SOME POINTS WHICH ARE NOT CONDUCTIVE TO THE DESIRED PEACEFUL SOLUTION. NATURALLY, FURTHER CONTACTS AND DISCUSSIONS ARE NECESSARY SO AS TO ARRIVE AT HARMONIZED POSITIONS AMONG OURSELVES BEFORE PRESENTING THE PROBLEM TO ETHIOPIA AND OTHER PARTIES. BE IT AS IT MAY, THE INITIAL REACTIONS OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT ARE THE FOLLOWING:-

1. FIRST AND FOREMOST, ANY FINAL SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM MUST BE BASED ON THE INTEREST AND THE GENUINE DESIRE OF THE PEOPLE CONCERNED, REGARDLESS OF THE TERRITORIAL DISPUTE BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA. THEREFORE, A NATURAL MANIFESTATION OF THESE DESIRES CAN ONLY BE EXPRESSED THROUGH THE PROCESS OF SELF-DETERMINATION. CONTRARY TO THIS POSITION IS THE PRINCIPLE OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE TERRITORY AS ADVOCATED BY ETHIOPIA. NEEDLESS TO SAY IN SO FAR AS THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THE REGION ARE CONCERNED, ETHIOPIA HAS NO LEGAL, POLITICAL OR MORAL TITLE OVER THE TERRITORY WHICH IS FOR ALL PURPOSES UNDER AN ALIEN RULE "COLONIAL". IT MUST BE RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THAT ETHIOPIA BEING THE DOMINATOR HAS THE ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM AND THEREFORE EVERY POSSIBLE PRESSURE SHOULD BE EXERTED UPON HER RATHER THAN SOMALIA.

2. THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT FINDS IT UNACCEPTABLE THE
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CONCEPTION OF "AN AUTONOMOUS REGION" AND ADHERES TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION AS DEFINED IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND OAU CHARTERS.

3. IT WELCOMES THE POSSIBILITY OF A MEETING WITH ETHIOPIA WITHOUT ANY PRE-CONDITIONS OR ON BASIS OF SELF-DETERMINATION AS DEFINED IN THE UN AND OAU CHARTERS.

4. IT DOES NOT ALSO RECOGNIZE THE TRIBAL CONNOTATION IMPLIED IN THE USE OF THE DENOMINATION "OGADEN-SOMALIS" WHICH MAKES A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE SOMALI PEOPLE OF THE AREA, WHICH WOULD NOT BE IF THAT WERE THE CASE ENTITLED TO THE SAME RIGHTS.

5. MEDIATION.

THE HEAD OF STATE OF NIGERIA, CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU MEDIATION COMMISSION AND THE CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU ARE PRESENTLY SEIZED WITH THE PROBLEM AN EARLY CONVENING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IS UNDER PREPARATION. IT WOULD THEREFORE, SEEM INAPPROPRIATE, AT THIS STATE, IN VIEW OF THE INTRICACIES OF THE PROBLEM, TO CALL FOR A MEETING OF THE SECURITY

COUNCIL WHICH MIGHT COMPLICATE THE PROBLEM AND ALLOW HARDENED POSITIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE PARTIES.

6. ON THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS, WE WOULD LIKE TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING AS PREREQUISITE ELEMENTS:-

1) THE EXTRA-CONTINENTAL FORCES TO BE IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAWN.

2) A CEASE-FIRE TO BE ARRANGED.

3) SIMULTANEOUS WITHDRAWAL OF SOMALI AND ETHIOPIAN TROOPS FROM THE REGION AND THE AREA TO BE DEMILITARIZED.

4) TO ACHIEVE THIS, THERE MUST BE INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEES, TO ENSURE NON-INTERVENTION BY ETHIOPIA MILITARILY, UNTILL A FINAL SOLUTION IS AGREED ON - INCLUDING THE PRESENCE
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OF NEUTRAL FORCES.

5) FINAL AND JUST SOLUTION UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OAU AND THE UNITED NATIONS.

UNQUOTE

2. SEPTTEL COMMENT FOLLOWS.
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